



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re the application of:

Attorney Docket No.: 3110.22US02

Hochschuler et al.

Confirmation No.: 7691

Application No.:

10/804,761

Examiner: D. Davis

Filed:

March 19, 2004

Group Art Unit: 3733

For:

METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR TREATING A VERTEBRAL BODY

PETITION FOR EXTENSION OF PERIOD FOR RESPONSE UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.136(a)

Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.136(a), an extension of time of three (3) months (from October 6, 2006 to December 6, 2006) within which to respond to the Office Action dated July 6, 2006 is requested. A check in the amount of \$510.00 is enclosed herewith to cover the extension fee. Applicants are entitled to small entity status in accordance with 37 CFR 1.27. The Commissioner is authorized to charge to Deposit Account No. 16-0631 any underpayments, overpayments or additionally required fees.

01/10/2007 HDEMESS1 00000003 10804761

01 FC:2253

510.00 DP

Respectfully submitted,

Wendy J. Cusick

Registration No. 52,788

Customer No. 24113 Patterson, Thuente, Skaar & Christensen, P.A. 4800 IDS Center 80 South 8th Street Minneapolis, Minnesota 55402-2100

Telephone: (612) 349-3019

Please grant any extension of time necessary for entry; charge any fee due to Deposit Account No. 16-0631.

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I hereby certify that this document is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA-22313-1450 on

Date of Deposit

Wendy J. Cusick